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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COBLE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

> Washington, DC, March 2, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable HOWARD COBLE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

For all the gifts of life this day, it is for thanks that we would pray. For spirits strong and hearts aglow, an attitude of thanks to grow.

It is with gratitude we speak. It is with minds and spirits so meek. Of all the trials from which we copy, it is for life and faith we hope.

Without such gifts we would despair, life would flounder, not be fair. So when we speak our words to You, may You, O God, be ever true.

With love and joy we see Your light, in which creation has delight, may we and all Your people here, find thankfulness and daily cheer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. \hbox{Cox})

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COX of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate having proceeded to reconsider the bill (H.R. 2631) "An Act disapproving the cancellations transmitted by the President on October 6, 1997, regarding Public Law 105-45.", returned by the President of the United States with his objections, to the House, in which it originated, and passed by the House on reconsideration of the same, it was resolved, that the said bill pass, two-thirds of the Senators having voted in the affirmative.

The message also announced that the Senate disagrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1150) "An Act to ensure that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance, to reform, extend, and eliminate certain agricultural research programs, and for other purposes," agrees to a conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. LUGAR, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. LEAHY, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-83, the Chair announces on behalf of the Ma-

jority Leader, his appointment of the following Senators to serve as members of the National Council on the Arts—the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-134, the Chair announces on behalf of the Majority Leader, his appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Amtrak Reform Council—Gilbert E. Carmichael, of Mississippi, Joseph Vranich, of Pennsylvania, and Paul M. Weyrich, of Virginia.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVEL-OPMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 114(b) of Public Law 100-458 (2 U.S.C. 1103), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development to fill the existing vacancy thereon, the term to expire on September 27, 1999:

Mr. PICKERING of Mississippi. There was no objection.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL THOMAS F. RILEY

(Mr. COX of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, today, one of our Nation's great leaders, one of our California leaders will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. He is a dedicated public servant and a gentleman.

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

